

A METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR CONTROLLING THE PROCESSING OF AN  
INTEGRATED CIRCUIT CHIP ASSEMBLY LINE USING A CENTRAL COMPUTER  
SYSTEM AND A COMMON COMMUNICATION PROTOCOL

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method and system for controlling the processing of an IC chip assembly line using a central computer system and a common communication protocol. In one embodiment, a manufacturing execution system (MEM) is used as the computer system and the communications protocol is the standard semi equipment communications standard/generic equipment model (SECS/GEM). One or more equipment cell controllers (CC) may be used to communicate between the MES a plurality of in-line substations which comprise the assembly line. Automated vision camera systems may also communicate information to the MES via the CCs. In one embodiment, the MES maintains a database in memory comprising processing history of a die-strip and results of automated die-strip examination from the vision camera systems. In one embodiment, the die-strip may be of a ball grid array (BGA) type.